



HAWAII KAI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 1

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2006

HAHAIONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Lester Muraoka called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with a quorum present. He thanked everyone for coming out in inclement weather and asked the video operator to "pan" the audience.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lester Muraoka, Dolores Elms-Beattie, Marian Grey, Richard Halverson, Jeanette Hanson, Mary Houghton, Donald Huff, Greg Knudsen, Wayne Levy, David Livingston (9:00 p.m.), Jim Sharp and John Steinmiller.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tony Paresa (excused) and Bob Clark.

GUESTS: Mark Anderson, Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (Governor Linda Lingle's representative); Senator Sam Slom, Senator Fred Hemmings and William Shapiro (Senator Fred Hemmings' Office staff); Representative Lyla Berg, Hal Barnes, Special Assistant to the Mayor (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative); Francisco Figueiredo and Nolan Kido (Councilmember Charles Djou's Office staff); Captain Eric Scharff (Honolulu Fire Department); Lt. A. Delima, Sgt. L. Dabaluz, Officer Eric Fong and Officer W. Scott (Honolulu Police Department); Lorna Heller (Board of Water Supply), Murray Luther (Hawaii Kai Booster); Pia and Paul Jordan, Alfred Hradecky, Maru Tanquel and Zig Polagzi (Kalele Kai); Tom Yamabe (Farmer), Jim Grey (Booster), Richard T. Hawkins (Colony Marina), Lee Mansfield (Hawaii American Water Co.), Elizabeth Reilly, Gayle G. Carr, Steven Geshell and Tai Hong (Livable Hawaii Kai Hui); Andy Constantaras, Gary E. Weller (Farmer), Ronald Livingston, Mike Klein (HICDA), Dr. M. Welte, Gary Weller, Natalie Iwasa, Todd Shelley, Fred Rodrigues, Suzanne Roig (*Honolulu Advertiser*), Ivonne Cardenas and Bob Farrell (Makakilo.com); and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The following addition was made to the February 28, 2006 regular meeting minutes.

Page 11, added to 9., it should read, "Chair Muraoka requested the Mayor's representative written report, like Sid Quintal has given, be updated and sent to him (and the Board) before the next meeting. (Subsequently, the following information was received- 1. Concerning the Hawaii Kai Post Office traffic, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) will conduct an investigation of Mr. Steven Geshell's suggestions to place a barrier and/or lane delineator posts and a roundabout at the intersection of Hawaii Kai Drive and Wailua Street. DTS will inform the Mayor's representative of the status of our study by May 24, 2006. 2. Concerning the Honolulu Marathon, The Honolulu Police Department and the Honolulu Marathon officials do their best to allow vehicular access along the Marathon route as soon as it is safe. Pedestrians are allowed to cross as long as it does not pose a safety problem to the runners. DTS received complaints and suggestions about the Honolulu Marathon, which will be brought up at the next evaluation meeting in March. Note: All emergency vehicles (HPD, Fire, EMS) are given access to the event area, even if the area is closed off to vehicle access. Whether it is constitutional law that citizens be allowed traffic access at all times is a matter for the legal counsel of the City and cannot be addressed here.)"

The minutes of the February 28, 2006 were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Treasurer Jeanette Hanson reported that the Treasurer's report would be deferred to next month.

SECRETARY'S REPORT- Secretary Dolores Elms-Beattie had no report.

STATUS REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)- Capt. Eric Scharff (Hawaii Kai Station) distributed the monthly report and highlighted the following:

1. Last month, Board member Bob Clark requested the number of emergency service calls and the percentage of total calls for the elderly housing on Kawaihae Street for December 2005 and January 2006. Capt. Scharff reported that they had 101 emergency calls, 22 for the retirement community or 14 percent.
2. Last month there were 70 calls for service, mostly medical calls. There was a missing swimmer, off Lumahai Street. They could not find the body, because of the treacherous area. It doesn't matter how many signs they put out, people still go in and get in trouble. Many times, there is a good ending, but sometimes it is not. It was a three and a half day search, using their fire engine and ladder truck, the battalion chief, aircraft, aircraft tender and rescue squad.
3. Fire Safety Tip: Even though we have had a lot of rain, there is still a concern for the growth of seasonal grass and small brush. In Hawaii Kai a brush fire could start with a discarded cigarette butt. Brush fires cause great damage in our communities and use resources that could be better utilized elsewhere. Be responsible and dispose of all fires properly. Even small sources of fire, such as cigarettes and charcoal, can cause immense destruction. Work together with your community to make it safer. Make and maintain a 30-foot wide firebreak by clearing the vegetation surrounding all structures. Report and remove hazards. Communicate with each other. Formulate plans for yourself, your family, and your neighborhood in case of emergencies. Now is the time to prepare for the brush fire season. If you are interested in creating a safe space around your home, street, or community, you may contact Denise Laitinen of Firewise at (808) 281-3497 or go to www.firewise.org. Capt. Scharff distributed the Firewise brochure.

There were no questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Capt. Scharff.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD)- Officer W. Scott handed out a written report for District 7, February 2006, which included a map of the beats: For Beat 774, there were 3 burglaries (-1 from January 2006), 0 thefts (-7 from January 2006) and 1 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (-3 from January 2006). For Beat 776, there were 0 burglaries (-1 from January 2006), 2 thefts (same as January 2006) and 5 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (-6 from January 2006). For Beat 778, there were 0 burglaries (-1 from January 2006), 2 thefts (-1 from January 2006) and 2 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (-1 from January 2006). For Beat 780, there were 0 burglaries (same as January 2006), 1 theft (same as January 2006) and 8 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (+1 from January 2006). For Beat 782, there were 2 burglaries (+1 from January 2006), 2 thefts (+1 from January 2006) and 4 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (+2 from January 2006). For Beat 784, there was 1 burglary (+1 from January 2006), 0 thefts (same as January 2006) and 13 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV) (+2 January 2006). There was also a report from the Narcotics/Vice Division (two closed complaints for the Hawaii Kai area), a news release about Maryknoll Grade School Faculty fighting pollution and nine anti-pollution tips.

There were no questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Officer Scott.

Board of Water Supply (BWS)- Lorna Heller distributed her monthly report and highlighted the following:

1. MAIN BREAK REPORT: There was one water main break for February near Kaumoku Street and Kaluaa Place. The pipe was 8-inch ductile iron pipe that was 28 years old. Although the BWS continues to proactively repair and replace our water mains, many of the pipelines are nearing its useful life and must be replaced. BWS spends millions of dollars every year to improve our aging infrastructure to insure our customers have access to safe and dependable water supplies.
2. GENERAL WATER ANNOUNCEMENTS: Although Detect-A-Leak Week was earlier this month, the Board of Water Supply wants to make sure you know how to find hidden water wasters year-round.

Check your house periodically for leaks- This should be integral to your overall maintenance efforts, as it can save you money in the long run by reducing unnecessary water waste in your home. To see if you have a property leak: Make sure you turn off all the devices that use water in your home. Go out to your water meter and check to see if the red arrow or small black triangle on the meter is still moving. If so, you have a leak somewhere on your property. Call a licensed plumber to find the leak and fix it.

Check your toilet Because the toilet is one of the largest water-using fixtures in your house, it can also be one of the largest water-WASTERS, too. To see if you have a leaky toilet: Remove your toilet tank cover and drop in a blue dye tablet (you can get them from the Board of Water Supply) or a couple of drops of food coloring. Wait 10-15 minutes. If the color appears in the toilet bowl, you have a leak. Check your toilet's flapper valve and replace if necessary, or call your plumber.

Questions and answers followed.

With the recent rains Board member Wayne Levy asked if there were any policy to encourage people to catch rainwater. Heller replied that it was the individual's choice, but not a policy. She would follow up.

There were no further questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Heller.

Board Announcements-

Board member Knudsen wanted to respond to Representative "Bud" Stonebraker's newsletter, which was distributed. He would wait to later in the agenda.

Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation- Committee Chair Mary Houghton reported that Toni Robinson, Department of Parks and Recreation, has been promoted. Committee Chair Houghton wanted to thank her for supporting the committee over the years and wanted the Board to give Robinson some kind of recognition.

Chair Muraoka thanked Committee Chair Houghton for her report.

Transportation- Committee Chair Dolores Elms-Beattie had no report.

Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO)- Committee Chair Donald Huff mentioned that OMPO has nothing "on the burner" for East Honolulu or Hawaii Kai.

Health & Safety- Committee Chair John Steinmiller had no report.

Legislation, Ethics & Policy- No report.

Communications- Committee Chair Rich Halverson had no report.

Planning and Zoning- No report.

Education – No report.

Community Relations – Committee Chair Jeanette Hanson had no report.

Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Advisory – Chair Muraoka had asked Board member Wayne Levy to chair this committee and he accepted.

Chair's Announcements- Chair Muraoka announced that Board member Wade Sasaki has resigned from the Board, as he and his wife, recently, had a baby and he has increased responsibilities at his business. The election to fill his At large vacancy will be next month. Chair Muraoka explained the procedure- a Board member

nominates a volunteer candidate, who introduces self, gives what issues are in Hawaii Kai and why he/she would like to serve on the Board. Then, the vote is taken. To be elected, a candidate must receive at least eight votes. Chair Muraoka asked the community people to consider volunteering to serve.

PUBLIC GENERATED ISSUES: Chair Muraoka reminded speakers to line up and introduce themselves, then briefly share the issue.

1. A twenty-five year resident of Hawaii, Dr. M. Welte lives near Sandy Beach and wanted to acknowledge the hard work done by the Board. She is a retired teacher, retired executive for GTE/Hawaiian Tel, a writer and a photographer with her own consultant business. She distributed photos and reported with passion that bulldozers were scarring Koko Head Crater. She must have missed this issue over the past few years. She could not see how the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) got the permission to build an archery range on conservation land from the Bishop Estate. She has contacted Mayor Hannemann and many government agencies and the media. She mentioned that Senator Sam Slom told her that this issue was decided years ago. She wanted to stand in front of the bulldozers.

Parks and Recreation committee Chair Mary Houghton mentioned that she is sorry that Dr. Welte missed the publicity about the archery range. The Parks and Recreation committee would have welcomed her input. In the past years and fifteen or sixteen meetings, this was the first time Houghton heard anyone opposing the archery range. Just like getting the Skate Park for the Hawaii Kai children, they are helping the Boy and Girl Scouts with their merit badges for archery,

Dr. Welte used to teach archery for the Girl Scouts and does not have a problem with the archery range, but the location and that the City has problems with sewage and potholes.

Board member Houghton mentioned that there would be landscaping and the plans are available to review at the Koko Head District Park.

Dr. Welte opposes the archery range and would work to stop it. She loves the Koko Head Crater.

Board member Houghton would work harder for the range.

Chair Muraoka thanked Dr. Welte for her comments.

2. Lee Mansfield, Hawaii American Water Co., which manages the wastewater treatment system in Hawaii Kai, announced an ownership transition. RWE, a German company would divest American Water Co., his parent company, which has operations in 36 states. RWE would issue an Initial Public Offering (IPO) with the sale to be completed by 2007. This ownership change would have "minimal impact" on their operations.

When Board member Elms-Beattie asked what was "minimal impact" and if the toilets would still work, Mansfield replied that they still have to do their jobs.

Board member Steinmiller asked if Hawaii American Water Co. had any problems with the recent rains for last six weeks and the sewage spill in the Ala Wai Canal and why does the sewage system get overloaded when it rains. Mansfield replied that both his company and more so, the City, have an old infrastructure built in the 1960s. When it rains, the groundwater level rises and rain goes in the manhole covers and floods the system. Repairs would cost "a ton of money" for both his company and the City.

When Board member Rich Halverson asked if the offering of the IPO would mean more capital for modernization projects, Mansfield replied that the IPO would mean American ownership, but management feels that they have always had adequate access to capital and this would continue. They look forward to more control over raising funds for capital investment.

Chair Muraoka reminded the people, who had questions or comments, to come up to the microphone so that the comments could be heard on television. When resident Gary Weller asked for clarification of the

ownership of Hawaii American Water Co., Mansfield said they are a wholly owned subsidiary of American Water, which is "going public" with \$7.5 billion in assets. He is now going to the plant to check on it.

Chair Muraoka commented that Mansfield should check that the pumps are pumping hard and he thanked Mansfield.

3. Natalie Iwasa asked about putting in bike racks in Koko Head Crater. Board member Houghton replied that they are working on it. Iwasa asked about the sign-waving to slow down traffic. Transportation Committee chair Elms-Beattie said that the Community Traffic Awareness Partnership (CTAP) program is on hold and she is working on it. Lastly, Iwasa mentioned the Mariners Ridge pilot project. As renters are not aware of this project, she asked the Board to have Mike Oshiro present the pilot project. The funding would run out at the end of June 2006. Chair Muraoka mentioned that the Mariners Ridge Community Association was not ready to make a presentation at the January meeting, as they had not come to a consensus. Chair Muraoka strongly urged the committee to come to agreement on recommendations to the City and Councilman Charles Djou. She would follow up with Andy Constantaras.

Andy Constantaras, chair of the Traffic Safety Committee for Mariners Ridge, reported that the results of their survey was split among three choices- re-engineering or re-construction of the roadway, to eliminate the banking which is going the wrong way, grooving the pavement or providing stop signs at the first intersection going up the hill. Less than ten (10) percent of the residents responded (no renters) and they felt uncomfortable with non-professionals making recommendations to the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) traffic engineers and professionals.

Chair Muraoka thanked Constantaras and encouraged his committee to work with the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) and Chair Muraoka asked Board members Steinmiller and Elms-Beattie to work with this committee, too.

Board member Huff suggested using second gear for steep hills until a more permanent solution is found.

Andy Constantaras mentioned that it was not only speed, as they had accidents going up hill, but also the wet pavement and improper banking.

4. Elizabeth Reilly announced that the City Charter Commission will be having a public outreach in Hawaii Kai on April 4 6:00 p.m. at the Hahaione Elementary School cafeteria. Proposal 7 pertains to the changing the name of the development plans to sustainable communities plans and requires a land use plan (which she supports), Proposal 21 and [Proposal 47](#) pertain to the recognition and [establishment of](#) urban growth boundaries and agricultural protection zones on Oahu.

Board member Houghton asked for clarification and Reilly replied that it was a City Charter Commission meeting not a Livable Hawaii Kai Hui meeting. Reilly distributed information on the meeting and the City Charter Commission.

5. Resident Fred Rodrigues will ask questions later about the affordable housing units after the presentation.

Chair Muraoka thanked Rodrigues and hearing no further public-generated issues, Chair Muraoka moved to the next agenda item.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS:

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative- (7:46 p.m.) Hal Barnes, Special Assistant to the Mayor, substituting for Sid Quintal mentioned the following:

1. Sid Quintal was at a zoological convention and that after touring the Honolulu Zoo, Barnes has a deeper appreciation for the zoo improvements and private-public partnerships.

2. The Triathlon will be going away from Hawaii Kai in May. The Mayor was adamant that they find an alternate route to the Hawaii Kai route.
3. Barnes encouraged everyone to attend the City Charter Commission meeting. They will vote in May, but they have narrowed down the proposals to about 50 proposals. If they put more than ten on the ballot, then that would increase the number of "blank" votes, which count as "no" votes.
4. Concerning the recent sewer spills, the City workers are hard working and doing their best to make temporary patches. Unfortunately, for many years, sewer repair was neglected. 60 percent of the capital budget is for sewer repair. Responding to the resident's concern about the funding for the pilot project on Mariners Ridge expiring at the end of June 2006, Barnes reported that the capital budget has an 18-month fiscal year and will go to December 2006. There is a City Charter proposal for 24-months.
5. Last month, concerning the "not in service" buses, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) responded that buses are either going back to the bus garage or going to a start point. This allows us to get buses back to the bus garage or to the start point quickly. We do this to keep operating expenses down. Barnes added that it is for the express buses only.
6. Concerning the full-page ad and the proper wrapping of the glass items, the full page ad recently placed in all the major newspapers was to educate island residents about bulky item collection—the new monthly schedule and a reminder of the do's and don'ts and the importance of placing your items out only on the scheduled pickup days and not earlier. Rules for regular refuse setout, which are posted online at www.opala.org or printed in publications, include the guidelines for wrapping glass for disposal. The next time the City runs print ads focused on general, taking care of garbage, the proper disposal preparation for glass will surely be included.
7. Concerning bulky item pick up outside the "three-day window," it is actually a "one-day window" or it is illegal dumping and should be reported to Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). We believe that people that dump bulky items illegally will do so even if we had a "one-day" window. Finding the culprit has been a difficult task.
8. Concerning the privatization of Department of Parks and Recreation (Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Barnes mentioned that Hawaii is a strong union State. The contracting of the positions requires consultation with the affected unions. The contract positions will not provide flexibility to do the full scope of duties for the ground maintenance and trades staff. In addition to maintaining or repairing restrooms, carpenters are shouldered with added responsibilities of repairing roofs. Likewise, plumbers also repair sprinkler systems and ground maintenance staff serves on roving crews, whose duties that provide services to other parks.
9. Concerning prioritizing the City services, the Hannemann administration has submitted its FY2007 budget to the City Council. Our priorities are contained in that budget, as well as described in the Mayor's State-of-the-City address. About 66 percent of the budget is devoted to debt service, public safety, sanitation (sewage and refuse), and utilities/enterprises (primarily TheBus), leaving the remaining public services to share the remaining third of the budget. Our budget approval process will further refine these priorities in the City Council.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. When Board member Levy asked about the financing going into sewers, as Hawaii Kai sewers are privately run. Barnes mentioned that from 1998 to 2005 the sewer rates have not been raised. Last year they rose 23 percent. The funds do not come from a General Fund.
2. A few months ago, Board member Huff asked about the traffic light at the Hawaii Kai Shopping Center near Safeway and that funds have been appropriated. He asked when would it be installed. Barnes would follow up. Huff also asked about Mayor Hannemann's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for Hawaii Kai. He would also ask the City Councilmember and the Hawaii Kai legislators.

3. Board member Houghton would like to discuss with Barnes about the various parks and recreation committee projects, since he offered last month. She would like to thank Mayor Hannemann and the various City people for the archery range. She was a little "down" after Dr. Welte's remarks and would like Barnes to convey her appreciation.
4. Resident Steven Geshell asked again about the status of the traffic around the Hawaii Kai Post Office. Barnes mentioned that the Mayor may be looking at the roads and the sewers, but Barnes would follow up. He mentioned that they are trying to make the capital budget a six-year plan. Chair Muraoka mentioned that in the last Mayor's representative report, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) said that they would report by May 24.

There were no further questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked the Mayor's representative Barnes.

Concerning the City Charter Commission meeting on April 4, Chair Muraoka announced that he now forms a "permitted interaction group (PIG)", where more than two, but less than quorum (eight) Board members may attend the meeting. Volunteers would notify Chair Muraoka that they wanted to attend the meeting. He would select a chair to report back to the Board, like Vice Chair Paresa did for the January community meeting by Councilmember Charles Djou and the Livable Hawaii Kai Hui. Board member Houghton volunteered.

Councilmember Charles Djou- (7:59 p.m.) Francisco Figueiredo distributed Councilmember Djou's newsletter and highlighted the following:

1. He mentioned three Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) updates. The construction of the Koko Head archery range began on March 15. Royal Contracting has 120 consecutive days to complete the project, estimated to end by July 12, 2006. There is an additional 90 days for landscaping and maintenance, like the previously-mentioned berm.
2. Concerning Board member Huff's traffic light, Figueiredo apologized for not getting the newsletter out earlier. It is in the design phase and should be completed by August 2006. Figueiredo would follow up with the Board.
3. Goeas field has been "on hold" due to the rains, but is scheduled to finish by summer.

There were no questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Figueiredo for the updates.

Senator Sam Slom- Senator Slom distributed his newsletter and highlighted the following:

1. He encouraged everyone to attend the City Charter Commission meeting.
2. Last Friday, he met with the Governor and her cabinet about a \$2.1 billion airport renewal program funded by airport revenue bonds and higher users fees. As the Honolulu International Airport is the first entry point to the United States of America and the last exit point, much reconstruction is needed. The public input would be requested.
3. This Thursday, the Legislature is approaching the two-thirds mark to May 4 adjournment. He thinks that they will adjourn on time as 51 Representatives are running for re-election and half the Senate is running for Congress.
4. Tuesday, April 11 is second "crossover day."
5. Senators Slom and Hemmings are on the Senate Ways and Means Committee. The supplementary budget goes to the committee soon. It calls for increases spending, increased government involvement

and increased tax credits. He mentioned that the State budget surplus is approaching \$700 million, but with \$1 billion in spending.

6. Concerning the "Gas Cap," Senator Ron Menor has not agreed to suspend it. It will go to conference committee for discussion.
7. Concerning tax relief, there is none yet. Everyone is talking about spending instead.
8. Senator Bill 2222, the "streamlining tax" bill is supposed to close loopholes in taxing people, who don't pay taxes, but is actually a "back door" approach to taxing the Internet, without Federal approval.
9. There are other "Bottle tax" bills, cigarette tax increases and other bills to watch. There is still time for public input.
10. Concerning Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) in Hawaii Kai, last October and November, he asked for legislative input. He received a lot of response from the Kuli'ou'ou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board No. 2, but very little from Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1. The dominant thought at the Legislature is that East Honolulu people are rich and they don't need anything from the Legislature, but your elected officials will fight for any serious CIP projects.

A question and answer followed.

When Board member Huff asked when would the airport construction end, Senator Slom mentioned the previous "patch jobs" and the new luxury shopping. The Governor is proposing major changes in terminal areas, additional parking and additional ease in getting from place to place. There would be ample opportunity for public input.

Chair Muraoka thanked Senator Slom.

Senator Fred Hemmings- Senator Hemmings distributed his newsletter and highlighted the following:

He stands by his report, which was handed out. He mentioned on the back page, there are figures and facts about the funding and cost of public education. The Department of Education (DOE) has tried to rebut his report in the media. While the enrollment has gone up three percent over the last fifteen years, the DOE budget has gone from \$500,000 a year to over \$2 billion. At a Senate Ways and Means Committee budget briefing, he learned that the majority of the state budget surplus would go to Department of Education (DOE), because of their "misrepresentations."

He added that Hawaii Kai residents would be indirectly also paying for the City sewers through the real property taxes debt service on bonds.

He challenged anyone to dispute his and Representative "Bud" Stonebraker's figures. When people talk about \$2.3 billion or 40 percent of the State's revenues, we sometimes lose sight of the priorities. He voted against Bill 51 two years ago, because it was a "façade of reform." He showed a booklet of Hahaione Elementary School children's letters and drawings to save their librarian and open library hours. He is against pay raises to Department of Education (DOE) administrators. He feels that the Legislature has been generous to the DOE, but it should go to the children and not a bloated bureaucracy.

When Board member Huff asked who hires and retires the Superintendent of Education, Senator Hemmings replied that it was/is the Board of Education, not the Governor.

Chair Muraoka recognized Board member Greg Knudsen to speak. There were some words exchanged between Board member Knudsen and Senator Hemmings.

Chair Muraoka reminded the Board and the audience that last month there was some discussion about the numbers and that he would not allow a debate at this time. At the last meeting Vice Chair Tony Paresa and

Chair Muraoka had suggested that Education Committee Chair David Livingston have an updated "Education Forum for Dummies" concerning spending.

Senator Hemmings agreed.

Board member Knudsen pointed out that using the \$9 billion State budget figure, the DOE's \$2.1 billion is 23 percent, not 40 percent. Senator Hemmings defended the 40 percent figure of the "A funds" from the taxpayers, not including Federal funds. Both agreed on the 23 percent figure.

Resident Gary Weller requested the total spending divided by the number of students and compared to other states. Senator Hemmings replied that two meetings ago, he mentioned the number was about \$11,000 per student and he was more concerned with how we manage the money here rather than in other states. Senator Hemmings again mentioned that the Hahaione school children are losing their librarian while Department of Education (DOE) administrators, who make \$110,000 a year, are asking for a \$5,000 pay raise.

Board member Knudsen explained that Hahaione Elementary School was sending their sixth graders to Niu Valley Middle School, but also that he has been warning that the Kaiser Complex schools would be losing money due to the "weighted student formula."

For the record, Senator Hemmings voted against Bill 51, because it was a "Trojan horse" with a "façade of reform." He again mentioned the Hahaione school children losing their librarian, while administrators are asking for a raise.

Chair Muraoka thanked Senator Hemmings.

Representative William "Bud" Stonebraker- Representative Stonebraker was not present, but his newsletter was distributed.

Board member Knudsen had comments about his newsletter. Before giving them, Knudsen thought it was "curious" that this Board never gets an education committee report, but at every meeting, there are issues brought up. He would support an active education committee. Concerning Representative Stonebraker and his newsletter, Knudsen took exception to his comments for the last three months. Knudsen held up an inch-thick document and mentioned that the Koko Head Elementary School renovation is a massive project, which takes time. The planning/design drawings are about finished and bids will go out by April 15, only two weeks more than reported two months ago. The school was responsible for some of the delays, as they wanted new roofing on two building before the interior work could start. Bids will open in late May and be awarded by June 30, 2006 to prevent lapsing of funds. Construction is expected to last more than one year, as contractors will need to close and work on one building at a time. Koko Head Elementary is more than 50 years old and will be totally renovated with new lighting, new windows, new interior and exterior painting, new sinks, new roofing on two buildings, complete termite treatment and all restrooms brought up to federal accessibility standards. The DOE is asking for money from the state surplus to renovate other schools. There is \$500 million in the fund, but only a little more than half has been released. There is money in the pipeline. The Koko Head project funds were appropriated in 2004. Board member Knudsen questioned Representative Stonebraker's voting record on the final reading of the 2004 budget bill and House Bill 1900, which supported the renovation of old schools. Representative Stonebraker voted "no" on one and was "excused" on the other. Finally, Knudsen mentioned that Representative Stonebraker's newsletter stated that there were only 6,362 teachers, while Knudsen believes that the number is closer to 11,000 or the Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA)'s claim of 13,500 members with about 11,000 teachers in the classroom.

Chair Muraoka thanked Knudsen for his comments and suggested that Knudsen consider running for office with that kind of report.

Representative Lyla Berg- (8:25 p.m.) Representative Berg distributed her newsletter and highlighted the following.

1. Part of the handouts updated the bills she introduced and their disposition. The "Sunshine Law" exemption did not pass in bill form, but as another vehicle.

2. Tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. at Kalani High School, there will be a "Lawmakers Listen" meeting. The community is invited to attend and ask questions of the various legislators.
3. Representative Berg talked about the Kaiser Complex Schools Forum "Talking Story About Education" on March 15 at Niu Valley. She was able to dialogue with State Superintendent of School Pat Hamamoto about meeting the learning needs of students and creative ideas from the community-based approach. She mentioned her article in the *Star-Bulletin* newspaper, dated March 9, 2006, where students study limu (Hawaiian seaweed). She also mentioned the School Community Councils and changes in the schools budgets.
4. She will be meeting next week with Laura Thielen of the State Office of Planning to discuss some of the issues raised by the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan (EHSCP), boundary reviews and Elizabeth Reilly in Kamilonui Valley.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. When Board member Marian Grey asked if tomorrow night's meeting started at 6:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., Representative Berg replied 6:30 p.m. Grey noticed that Representative Brian Schatz, a Democrat, was added as a panelist. Representative Berg explained that he was the Vice Chair of the Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources. Grey noticed that no Republicans were invited as panelists. Representative Berg responded that the chairs of the relevant committees were invited. She invited Senator Sam Slom and Representative Barbara Marumoto to attend.
2. When Board member Grey asked about the bill, removing the excise tax off of gas, Representative Berg mentioned that removing the tax on gas or airline fuel is not real "tax relief." We should look at the larger picture than just gasoline. Concerning the cost of living, we could look at the subsidies given to private developers. Board member Grey favors some form of tax relief.
3. Concerning the removing of the excise tax on gasoline, Board member Levy would favor removing the excise tax on food and medicine before gasoline. He expressed his public health concern about mosquitoes after the heavy rains. Where does he go to get some spraying done? Representative Berg mentioned that was a good question, as mosquitoes are not considered an invasive species, like the Couqui frog or Miconia plant. This is something the State can build a partnership with the City and County of Honolulu. She added that "tax relief" is a larger discussion than just eliminating the excise tax, but could include investments and new ways to create revenues.
4. When resident Steven Geshell asked if committee chairs have the power to not hear a bill, Representative Berg replied "yes" and it is important for the public to notify the chairs of the importance of hearing a bill. Board member Grey noticed that there were no Republican committee chairs in the Senate and the House. Representative Berg mentioned that perhaps, when she becomes Speaker of the House, she could change this

As there were no further questions, Chair Muraoka thanked Representative Berg.

Chair Muraoka announced the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) for the "Lawmaker's Listen" meeting on March 29, the Kalani Complex Schools Community Forum on April 12 and the Board of Education Community meeting on May 11. Interested Board members, who wished to attend, should contact Chair Muraoka.

Governor Linda Lingle's representative- (8:37 p.m.) Mark Anderson, Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), did not have the Governor's written report but was available to take concerns. He mentioned the following:

1. He would ask the Budget and Finance Department to send someone to a future meeting to present figures on the Department of Education (DOE) spending.
2. He would ask the Department of Health (DOH) about the mosquitoes.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. Board member Knudsen mentioned some traffic problems on Kalanianaʻole Highway around 9:00 a.m. due to sewer repair or a sinkhole. Anderson would follow up. Board member Huff commented on the road repair and potholes from his house (on Hana Kapiʻai Street) passed the Foodland and by Safeway (on Lunalilo Home Road).
2. Resident Todd Shelley would like more information on education in other states like spending per student. He mentioned that Senator Hemmings had used the term "bloated" many times and wanted comparisons. Chair Muraoka mentioned that several years ago, there were studies comparing spending per student and teachers salaries, showing that Hawaii was in the middle. Resident Gary Weller again requested the spending per student from other states and the test scores, to see if there is any correlation. Board member Levy wanted to know about the length of the school day and school year. Board member Rich Halverson requested the cost for a student with special needs compared to a student who could be accepted to a private school.

Anderson would try to get someone from Budget and Finance to explain the various funds and spending. Chair Muraoka suggested that Anderson work with Vice Chair Paresa and Education Committee Chair David Livingston on their "Education for Dummies" presentation and Chair Muraoka would ask them to work with Anderson.

There were no further questions.

Chair Muraoka thanked Governor's representative Anderson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS: (8:46 p.m.)

Requesting extension of time to construct 69 affordable units through DPP and resolution with City Council. Also requesting that the new affordable guidelines, in draft by DPP, be applicable for parcels affected by the Unilateral Agreement (UA)– Mike Klein, Hawaii Intergenerational Community Development Association (HICDA) and 21st Century Homes, Inc. gave some background on the 1986 Unilateral Agreement (UA). There were 1,780 units approved by the City Council and distributed by the Kaiser Development Corporation in six parcels. Item #3 of the UA specifically stated that 178 affordable housing units be distributed across all six parcels. They were to put 10 percent of the units at 80 percent of median income. A couple could not make over \$45,000 a year and a family of four, not over \$57,000. No affordable housing units were approved in East Honolulu. None built by the City. Klein negotiated to reduce the number of units from 178 to 100 in the Kaluanui 2 and 3 parcels. He built 31 affordable senior apartments for people who make between \$15,000/year and \$28,500/year. Some senior single women are able to live there for \$440 to \$800/month rent for two bedrooms. They were able to "skew" the low end by having 69 units at 120 percent, which is close to market rate. Two people, making \$68,450 today, would have to make \$73,000/year to \$75,000/year by the time they are built. For four people would be \$85,500/year. "Affordable" means that a family of four is making a lot of money. There was a new entrance, delays due to design changes and they "lost" 150 feet height. They have a \$30 to \$50 million construction cost increase, so they are requesting a two or three-year extension of the delivery of the remaining 69 units to 2009 or 2010. Otherwise, the City can mandate 147 units at below median. Before he went to the second request, he asked for questions about the first phase.

Board member Elms-Beattie asked about the new entranceway. Board member Steinmiller mentioned the ten-foot setback. Klein showed a drawing of 100 units "stepped back," so that the viewer could see Koko Head. Chair Muraoka mentioned that Klein came before the Board one year ago. Since then, the 503 units were reduced to 498 total.

Hawaii Intergenerational Community Development Association (HICDA) formed in 1998 and is a non-profit. Klein is the Executive Director. For 21st Century Homes, a for-profit, not all members are on board yet.

Chair Muraoka suggested having a community meeting and he announced forming a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) for the community meeting.

Resident Andy Constantaras asked about units for seniors.

Klein mentioned his second topic. There were changes at Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) and he would like to get all of the credits allowed for affordable housing.

Chair Muraoka suggested that Klein work with Planning and Zoning Committee Chair Robert Clark for the community meeting and publicity.

Chair Muraoka thanked Klein.

Update on Costco's expansion project- (9:21 p.m.) Michael Chu, consultant for Costco, mentioned that at the main driveway, double left turn lanes onto Keahole Street. Other phases would involve the demolition of the medical building, expansion of the parking area, expansion of warehouse by 35,000 square feet and the final phase would be the interior work. It would be comparable to the Waipio and Iwilei stores, from 111,000 square feet to 146,000 square feet. They hope to finish by November 2006 with a deli, food area and new employee lounge. Board member Elms-Beattie asked about landscaping. Concerning a gas station, Chu mentioned that he is only a local planner and it is "not on the radar screen," but corporate people may still be thinking about it.

Board member Grey asked about parking. Chu mentioned that there are 1,341 parking spaces in the whole complex. There are no plans for a parking structure. The expansion would be towards the medical building area. There would be slightly less number of spaces, but wider, instead of 8.5 feet, 9 to 10 feet.

Resident Elizabeth Reilly asked about the traffic studies. Chu mentioned the double left turn and that he would get the traffic study to Reilly.

Chair Muraoka requested that Chu present the landscaping drawings at the April meeting under "Public Generated Issues", not an agenda item. Chu mentioned that the change in the driveway would not affect stores.

Chair Muraoka thanked Chu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS-

1. The next regular Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1 meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2006 Hahaione Elementary School Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.
2. Broadcasts of the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1 meetings are on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 9:00 pm on Olelo Channel 54. Please check your local TV listings.

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no objections, Chair Muraoka adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Submitted by K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by Chair Lester Muraoka and Secretary Delores Elms-Beattie